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USAF review
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ARMY review
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SUBJECT Participation in the Hungarian Fight For Freedom	DATE DISTRIBUTED 1 Mar 57		25X1
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION			
This report is the result of a joint collection effort by the Air Force, the Army and CIA and is disseminated in accordance with the provisions of NSCID #7.			
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1.	On 23 Oct 56 [] UNCODED VII District Budapest Recruiting Headquarters on Dohany Street. Shouting was discernable throughout the day. The staff, however, continued working. [] leaflets on the streets, on the walls and some being handed from one person to another. These leaflets were reproductions of the demands of the Hungarian people. After reading one of the leaflets, [] UNCODED participated in the razing of the statue of Stalin and the removal of red stars from four flags on Andrassy Street. About dark, [] rejoined the crowds of people and participated in breaking the windows of the offices of the newspaper, Szabadnep. [] about 2230 or 2300. a Russian armored car arrived and fired into the crowd.		
2.	[]		
3.	[]		
4.	[] commanding officer issued an order to call reserve units. About 50 officers and some enlisted men responded to his call. Among the officers was Major Jozsef Drabant, former chief of staff of the Eleventh Army Corps. Major Drabant served under General (fnu) Maleter who commanded this corps.		
5.	[] the Main Police Station where a meeting of eight or 10 freedom fighter leaders was in progress. [] Major Drabant was elected commander, a reserve Captain named (fnu) Kovacs was elected his assistant and a civilian named (fnu) Nemeskeri, a former army officer during the Horthy regime was elected as liaison officer with the forces of General Maleter. A man		
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named (fnu) Steiner, was elected leader of one of the subordinate units, and a Sgt (fnu) Mueller, from Headquarters VII District, was placed on the staff.

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Headquarters for this unit was established in the Communist Party Headquarters Building near the Emke Restaurant on or about 2 Nov 56. At this time, identity cards were issued which certified that the bearer was a member of the National Guard and was authorized to bear arms.

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6. There were about 130 persons in this unit who were recruited on the streets. Most of these people were armed and had their own ammunition.

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People had forced their way into the office and demanded arms from [] commanding officer (C O VII District Hq) and he had given them out of fear. A supplementary ammunition supply was brought in by a reserve officer who had broken into an ammunition warehouse near the Defense Ministry. Ammunition resupply was not coordinated. Coordination between Drabant and a civilian named Dudas, who had been elected leader of the VIII District, extended only to pass words. Major Drabant was in telephone communication with the headquarters of General Maleter in the Kilian Barracks and with another unit whose headquarters were in the Korvin Theater. Runners were utilized as a secondary means of communication. The unit was kept informed concerning Russian attacks on Kilian Barracks, the City Zoo and the railroad station.

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7. On or about 4 November [] unit was surrounded by Russian tanks unaccompanied by infantry. [] they were heavy

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tanks, possibly the Joseph Stalin type. Also employed by Russian troops were armored cars resembling the American General Motors truck and mounting a twin-barrel-machine gun of heavy caliber. One Soviet tank was destroyed. Major Drabant's unit had its own doctor who had brought his own medicine and two nurses. The unit sustained about seven casualties. Among the wounded was Major Drabant who was evacuated to a hospital. Everyone awaited the aid promised by RFE. After the ammunition had been expended, on or about 18 November, [] 10 others, mouse-holed out of the building []

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[] to the Recruiting Headquarters where [] commanding officer expressed satisfaction with the result of the uprising.

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8. [] kaserne in Jaszbereny [] required to sign a loyalty oath.

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9.

One copy of the Declaration for Officers. CONFIDENTIAL 7

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DECLARATION FOR OFFICERS

A great patriotic national movement has begun in our fatherland for the betterment of our socialist democracy, for the correction of the grave mistakes committed by the Rakosi - Gero clique and for the assurance of our national independence and sovereignty.

I acknowledge the legality of these demands and lend them my support. At the same time, I sincerely condemn all forms of counter-revolutionary force, the brutal white terror, the aspirations of those who wish to restore capitalism and the subversive activities of capitalist circles directed against our peoples' government.

I am willing to fight these aspirations with all my strength. I know that reactionary forces have deceived the honest workers.

This situation was aggravated by the weakness and indecision of the government of Imre Nagy. As a consequence of his policies, discipline was undermined in our National Army. Our nation was in danger of being over-powered by reactionary forces which demanded that the factories be returned to the capitalists, the land to the landowners and that the government representing the peoples' will be overthrown.

I declare that I will unconditionally join the Government of the Revolutionary Workers and Peasants which was born on 4 November 1956. I will support our government in the correction of past mistakes and omissions.

I agree that, in view of the counter-revolutionary dangers threatening our fatherland, it was necessary to request the aid of the friendly government of the Soviet Union and of the allied Soviet Army for the annihilation of the counter-revolutionary forces and for the restoration of our democratic system as well as for the strengthening of our freedom.

I am an adherent of the friendship of Hungary and the Soviet Union which is based on the principle of frank equality!

I solemnly declare that I recognize that the decisions of the Government of the Revolutionary Workers and Peasants are unconditionally binding upon me in accordance with the military oath. I will consciously obey all military orders.

I am fully aware that our national government is in need of an army that is able to maintain order throughout the country to restore a peaceful regime and that such an army must lend unswerving support to our Government and our Peoples' Democratic System.

At the same time, I declare that I had no part in the deeds which violated the laws of our Peoples' Democracy and which are condemned by the Hungarian Government of Revolutionary Workers and Peasants.

I regard the above binding upon me and certify it with my signature.

Budapest, 1956, November _____

.....
signature

ANNEX C

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